

Sender:



His Excellency
Mamnoon Hussain
President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan
Islamabad, Pakistan

via Embassy of Islamic Republic of Pakistan
Schaperstrasse 29
10719 Berlin

Date: _____

Your Excellency,

Navid Masih from Sargodha in the Punjab province is a Christian who was falsely accused of blasphemy by police who were looking for a pretext for his arrest, according to our information.

Many people from his area sought the spiritual advice of the 24 year old, including Muslims. He once received a valuable sword as a gift from a Muslim out of gratitude; it is resplendently engraved with quotations from the Koran. Apparently, security forces were aware of that. Police officers came to blackmail him, and demanded a form of security payment, otherwise they would take steps against him.

He did not give in, so they finally accused him of committing a crime and lured Naveed Masih into a trap. Under the pretext of trying to help, they were able to call him and order him to one place. When he arrived there, they overpowered him. Meanwhile, they led their accomplices in raiding his home, where they found the sword and kept it for 'safekeeping'. According to our information, the police had previously learned about this valuable asset, and asked about it. The police finally arrested and imprisoned him for blasphemy.

Your Excellency, for many years, the international community has indicated that the blasphemy laws are misused in personal disputes. We urge you to take action immediately for the release of Naveed Masih, and for the initiation proceedings against these police officers.

Sincerely,